Receipt Number

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

CRAFT HOUSE CORPORATION,

Exhibit A

Plaintiff,

Case: 2:06-cv-10219

VS.

Assigned To: Tarnow, Arthur J Referral Judge: Scheer, Donald A

Assign. Date: 01/17/2006

LANARD TOYS, INC., a California corporation, and LANARD TOYS LTD., a Hong Kong corporation,

Description: CMP CRAFT HOUSE CORP V. LANARD TOYS, INC., ET AL (TAM)

Defendants.

JURY TRIAL REQUESTED

MARK A. CANTOR (P32661) MARC LORELLI (P63156)

BROOKS KUSHMAN P.C. 1000 Town Center Twenty-Second Floor Southfield, Michigan 48075 (248) 358-4400 Attorneys for Plaintiff 1.

> COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT AND JURY DEMAND



Brooks Kushman P.C. 1000 Town Center, 22nd Fl. Southfield, MI 48075-1238

Tel (248) 358 4400 Fax (248) 358-3351

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Plaintiff, CRAFT HOUSE CORPORATION ("CRAFT HOUSE"), for its Complaint herein, states as follows:

I. JURISDICTION

- This is an action for patent infringement arising under the Patent Laws of the United States, Title 35, United States Code.
- The subject matter jurisdiction for this Court is founded upon 28 U.S.C.
 § 1338 (patents) and 28 U.S.C.
 § 1331 (federal question).
- Jupon information and belief, defendants, LANARD TOYS, INC. and LANARD TOYS LTD. (collectively "defendants"), regularly and continuously engage in substantial sales and other business transactions in the Eastern District of Michigan, and have sold infringing products and/or committed infringing acts in this district. The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan therefore has *in personam* jurisdiction over the defendants.

II. THE PARTIES

4. Plaintiff, Craft House Corporation, is a Michigan corporation having a place of business at 5570 Enterprise Boulevard, Toledo, Ohio 43612.



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- 5. Upon information and belief, defendant Lanard Toys, Inc., is a California corporation, with places of business at 2011 Auto Center Drive, Suite 200, Oxnard, California 93030-8943 and at 101 S. Sterling Terrace, Sugar Creek, Missouri 64054-1234, designs, distributes, offers for sale and sells the accused toy vehicles containing the hopping mechanism for model cars.
- 6. Upon information and belief, defendant Lanard Toys Ltd. is a Hong Kong corporation with a place of business at 6/F, Energy Plaza, 92 Granville Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong 2017, designs, distributes, offers for sale and sells the accused toy vehicles containing the hopping mechanism for model cars.

III. BACKGROUND

- 7. On March 14, 2000, U.S. Patent No. 6,036,575 ("the '575 patent") entitled "Hopping Mechanism For Model Car" was duly and legally issued. (See Exhibit A, U.S. Patent No. 6,036,575.)
- 8. Craft House is the owner of all right, title and interest in the '575 patent.
- 9. On August 25, 2004, Craft House sent Lanard a letter advising Lanard of its infringement of the '575 patent.



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10. Lanard has refused to change the course of its actions in the face of Craft House's communications.

IV. COUNT I - PATENT INFRINGEMENT

- 11. Craft House realleges paragraphs 1-10 as set forth fully herein.
- 12. Defendants have made, used, offered for sale, imported and sold in the United States, and continue to make, use, offer for sale, import and sell in the United States toys which infringe the '575 patent, induce others to infringe, and/or contributorily infringe the '575 patent.
- 13. Defendants' infringement has been and continues to be willful, wanton, and deliberate.
- 14. Craft House has suffered damages as a result of the infringing activities of the defendants, and will continue to suffer such damage as long as those infringing activities continue.
- 15. Craft House has no adequate remedy at law. Unless enjoined by this Court, the defendants will continue such acts of infringement to Craft House's substantial and irreparable damage.



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V. <u>DEMAND FOR RELIEF</u>

Accordingly, Craft House respectfully demands that this Court enter judgment:

- A. Preliminarily and permanently enjoining and restraining defendants, their officers, directors, employees, agents, servants, successors and assigns, and any and all persons acting in privity or in concert with the defendants, from further infringement of the '575 patent;
- B. Awarding Craft House its damages, together with prejudgment interest and costs, and increasing those damages to three times the amount found or assessed as provided by 35 U.S.C. § 284;
- C. Declaring this an exceptional case within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 285, and awarding Craft House its reasonable attorney's fees and costs and disbursements in this action; and
- D. Granting to Craft House such other and further relief as this Court deems reasonable.



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VI. DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Craft House respectfully demands a trial by jury of any and all issues triable of right by a jury in the above-captioned action.

Respectfully submitted,

BROOKS KUSHMAN P.C.

By:

MARC LORELLI

(P32661)

(P63156)

1000 Town Center

Twenty-Second Floor Southfield, Michigan 48075

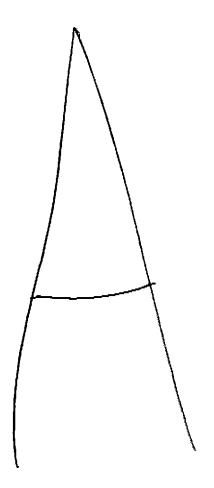
(248) 358-4400

Attorneys for Plaintiff

Dated: January 17, 2006



Brooks Kushman P.C. 1000 Town Center, 22nd Fl. Southfield, MI 48075-1238





United States Patent [19]

Rehkemper et al.

[11] Patent Number:

6,036,575

[45] Date of Patent:

Mar. 14, 2000

[54]	HOPPING MECHANISM FOR MODEL CAR					
[75]	Inventors:	Steven F. Rehkemper, Chigaco; Jeffrey G. Rehkemper, Chicago, both of III.				
[73]	Assignee:	Craft House Corporation, Toledo, Ohio				
[21]	Appl. No.:	09/233,673				
[22]	Filed:	Jan. 19, 1999				
[52]	U.S. Cl					
[56]		References Cited				
	U.S	. PATENT DOCUMENTS				

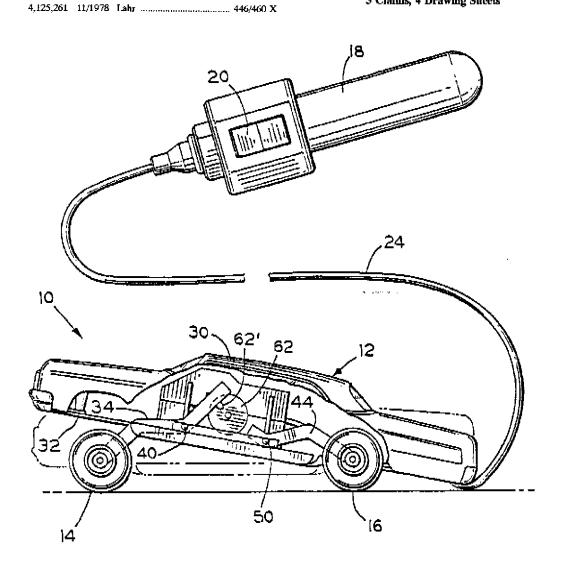
4,218,846	8/1980	Lahr
4,696,655	9/1987	D'Andrade et al 446/466
5,527,059	6/1996	Lee, Jr 446/466
5,643,041	7/1997	Mukaida 446/466 X
5,722,872	3/1998	Simmons et al, 446/466 X
5,762,533	6/1998	Tilbor et al 446/466

Primary Examiner—D. Neal Muir Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Donald R. Frascr

[57] ABSTRACT

A model car having a mechanism driven by a reversible electric motor for selectively raising and lowering the front or rear of the ear.

3 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets



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Sheet 1 of 4

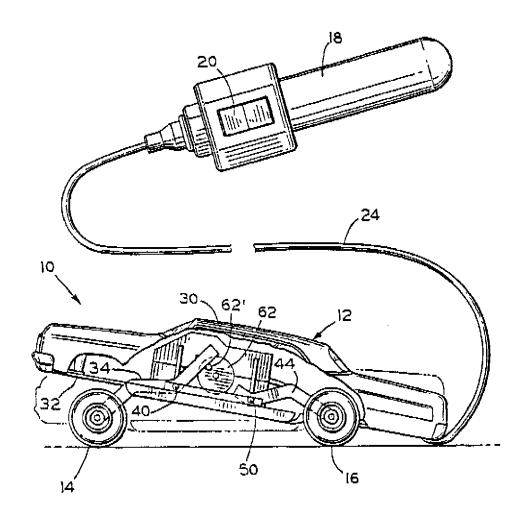
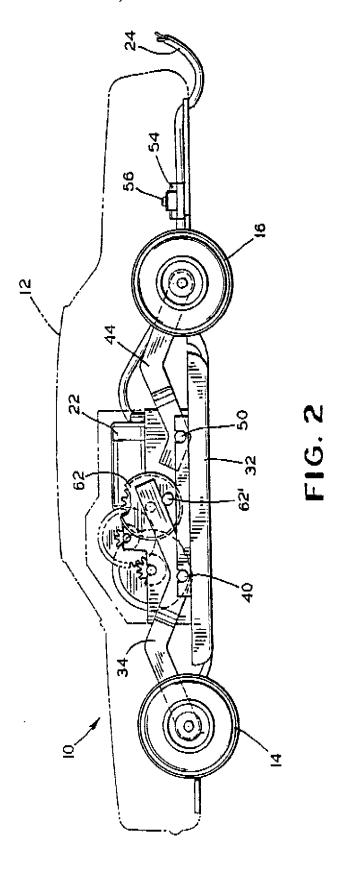


FIG. I

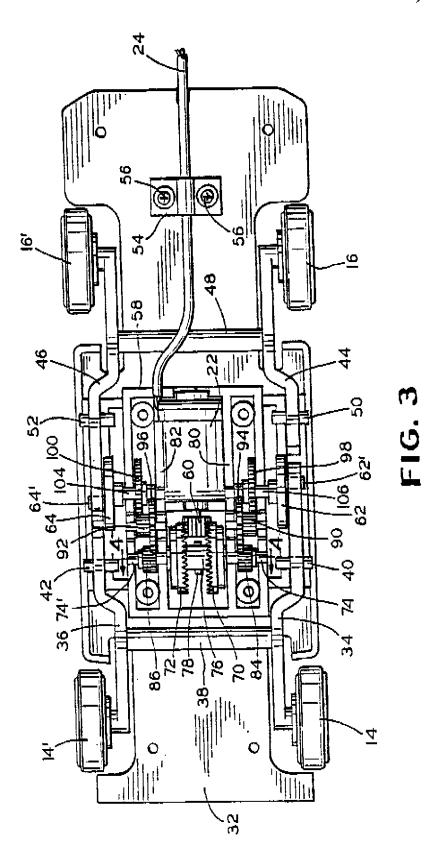
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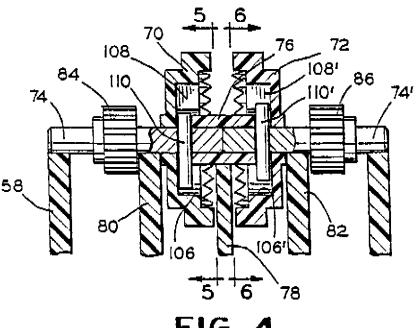


FIG. 4

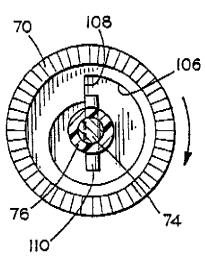


FIG. 5

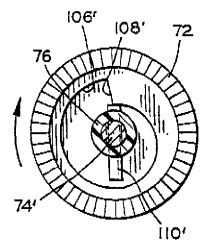


FIG. 6

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HOPPING MECHANISM FOR MODEL CAR

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The invention relates to model cars and more particularly to a model car which can be assembled from a kit requiring minimum skill and tools. Further, the front or the rear of the body of the assembled model car may be selectively raised and lowered in respect of the ground engaging wheels.

2. Prior Art

The prior art is replete with model cars and other similar vehicle replicas having wheels which may be driven, typically by a D.C. electric motor, to propel the vehicle forward or backward. Such motion of a vehicle imparts great interest in the attending youth.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an objective of the invention to produce a model car which can be selectively caused to raise or lower the front or the rear end of the hody relative to the respective ground engaging wheels.

Another objective of the present invention is to produce a model car wherein the front or the rear end of the body of the model car may be selectively raised or lowered in respect of the associated ground engaging wheels by a reversible direct current electric motor.

Still another object of the invention is to produce a model car kit comprised of a number of individual components which may be readily assembled with a minimal number of 30 tools by a person having minimal dexterity.

The above as well as other objectives of the invention may be typically achieved by a model car assembly including:

- a chassis;
- a first set of ground engaging wheels;
- a second set of ground engaging wheels;
- a first set of axle arms having outer and inner ends, the axle arms rotatably receiving the first set of ground engaging wheels at the outer ends of the first set of axle arms:
- a first pivotal mounting means intermediate the outer and inner ends of the first set of axle arms for pivotally mounting the first set of axle arms to the chassis;
- a second set of axic arms having outer and inner ends, the axic arms rotatably receiving the second set of ground engaging wheels at the outer ends of the second set of axic arms;
- a second pivotal mounting means intermediate the outer and inner ends of the second set of axle arms for 50 pivotally mounting the second set of axle arms to the chassis;
- a reversible drive motor;
- a first earn member engaging the first set of axic arms between inner end thereof and the first pivotal mounting means;
- a second cam member engaging the second set of axle arms between the inner end thereof and the second pivotal mounting means; and
- a gear train coupled to the drive motor to drive the first ⁶⁰ cam member when caused to operate in a first direction and to drive the second cam member when caused to operate in a direction opposite to the first direction.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The above objects and advantages, as well as others, will become clearly apparent to one skilled in the art from 2

reading the following detailed description of a preferred embodiment of the invention when considered in the light of the attached drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view with portions cut away to more clearly illustrate the features of a model car incorporating the features of the invention;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged side elevational view of the model car illustrated in FIG. 1 with the body portion illustrated in phantom;

FIG. 3 is a top plan view of the model car illustrated in FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is an enlarged sectional view of the gear train of the invention taken along line 4—4 of FIG. 3;

FIG. 5 is an enlarged sectional view taken along line 5—5 of FIG. 4 of a ring gear of the gear train for driving the earn member for effecting the raising or lowering of the front end of the body showing the drive gear; and

FIG. 6 is an enlarged elevational view taken along line 6—6 of FIG. 4 of a ring gear of the gear train for driving the cam member for operating the rear end of the body wherein the ring gear is rotatably free of the associated cam member.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION

Referring to the drawings, there is illustrated a preferred embodiment of the invention in the form of a model car capable of selectively raising or lowering the front or rear of the body of the car in respect of the associated front or rear wheel assemblies.

More specifically, there is shown in FIGS. 1, 2, and 3 a model car, generally indicated by reference numeral 10, including a body assembly 12; ground engaging front wheels 14, 14'; ground engaging rear wheels 16, 16'; and a power source 18, containing suitable batteries and having a rocker switch 20, coupled to a reversible electric motor 22 through a flexible electric cord 24.

The body assembly 12 includes a body 30 which typically replicates the sheet metal, glass, and humpers of a conventional commercially sold vehicle, such as a 1964 Chevrolet Impals (trademarks owned by General Motors Corporation, U.S.A.). The body assembly 12 also includes a chassis 32 formed to replicate the vehicle frame, suspension system, and certain other components of the running gear. The body 30 and the chassis 32 may typically be formed of a plastic material which may be formed to genuinely represent the commercial vehicle. The plastic components may be glued together and/or assembled by suitable threaded fasteners.

The actual suspension of the model car 10 is achieved through the use of a front axic arm assembly and a rear axic arm assembly. The front axic arm assembly includes a pair of spaced apart generally parallel axic arms 34, 36 integrally joined together by a cross arm 38. Pivot pins 40, 42 are disposed intermediate the ends of the axic arms 34, 36, respectively. The forward outwardly extending terminal portions of the front axic arms 34, 36 are adapted to pivotally receive the ground engaging wheels 14, 14', respectively.

The rear axie arm assembly includes a pair of spaced apart generally parallel axie arms 44, 46 integrally joined together by a cross arm 48. Pivot pins 50, 52 are disposed intermediate the ends of the axie arms 44, 46, respectively. The rearward outwardly extending terminal portions of the rear axie arms 44, 46 are adapted to pivotally receive the ground engaging wheels 16, 16, respectively.

The reversible electric motor 22 is suitably mounted in an appropriately formed base of a two-piece enclosure 58

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suitably secured to the chassis 32. The flexible power cord 24 is caused to extend rearwardly of the chassis 32 of the model car 10 and maintained centrally of the rear of the chassis 32 by a bracket 54 secured to the chassis 32 by threaded fasteners 56.

The motor 22 is provided with an output shaft having an output gear 60 secured thereto. The output gear 60 serves as the power input gear of a gear train which is capable of selectively delivering power to oppositely disposed cam wheels 62, 64. The cam wheel 62 is effective to drive the 10 front axle arm assembly and the cam wheel 64 is effective to drive the rear axle arm assembly, as will be explained in detail hereafter.

The gear train is disposed within the base of the enclosure 58. The gear train includes a pair of spaced apart ring gears 70, 72 mounted to freely rotate on a split shaft 74, 74' the opposite outer ends of which are rotatably supported in grooves formed in the upstanding sides of the base of the enclosure 58. The inner ends of the split shaft 74, 74' are maintained in alignment by a hollow collar 76 mounted to $^{-20}$ rotate in a groove formed in an upright yoke 78 extending upwardly from the interior of the base of the enclosure 58. The hollow collar 76 functions to maintain the spaced relation between the ring gears 70, 72. Immediately adjacent the outer surfaces of the gears 70, 72, the split shafts 74, 74', respectively are mounted to rotate in grooves formed in interior upstanding walls 80, 82 of the base of the enclosure 58. Suitable gears 84, 86 are keyed or otherwise permanently affixed to the split shafts 74, 74', respectively.

A pair of stepped gears 90, 92 having supporting shafts 94, 96, respectively keyed or otherwise affixed thereto. The gears 90, 92 are effective to transmit motion to the cam wheels 62, 64, respectively, through respective gears 98, 100. The ends of the shafts 94, 96 are rotatably supported in grooves formed in the side walls of the base of the enclosure 58 and the spaced apart adjacent interior walls 80, 82, respectively.

Each of the cam wheels 62, 64 is provided with a supporting shaft 102, 104, respectively to which the wheels are keyed or otherwise suitably affixed. The shafts 102, 104 are supported in grooves formed in the upstanding interior walls 80 and 82 and the adjacent upstanding sides of the base of the enclosure 58.

The cam wheel 62 is provided with an outwardly projecting cam 62', while the cam wheel 64 is provided with an outwardly projecting cam 64'. The cams 62', 64' are effective causing movement of the front axle arm 34 and the rear axle arm 46, respectively.

Motion is transmitted through the goar train from the 50 motor 22 in the following manner. Initially, let it be assumed that output gear 60 of the motor 22 is effective to cause clockwise rotation of the ring gear 70 as illustrated in FIG. 5. The inner face of the ring gear 70 is provided with a ledge-like surface or shelf 106 in the form of a spiral for 55 180° and a circle for 180° interconnected by a shoulder 108.

The split shaft 74 is provided with a bore hole extending therethrough normal to the rotational axis of the shaft. A pin 110 of slightly less outer diameter than the diameter of the hole in the shaft 74 is adapted to readily slide within the 60 hole. Assuming that initially neither of the ends of the pin 110 were in contact with the shoulder 108, and the gear 70 is free to rotate relative to the shaft 74 upon continued clockwise rotation of the gear 70 the pin 110 will drop, causing an end thereof to contact the shoulder 108. 65 Thereafter, the clockwise rotation of the gear 70 and the shaft 74 will rotate in unison, as shown in FIG. 5.

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Turning to FIG. 6, there is shown the interior view of the cooperating ring gear 72 having an interior configuration which is a mirror image of the interior of the ring gear 70. The gear 72 is provided with a ledge-like surface or shelf 106' which extends generally annularly in the form of a spiral for approximately 180° and a circle for the balance of the path completely around the interior surface of the gear 72. The path of the shelf 106' commences and terminates in a shoulder 108'.

The associated split shaft 74' is provided with a bore hole extending therethrough normal to the rotational axis of the shaft. A pin 110' of slightly less outer diameter than the diameter of the hole in the shaft 74' is adapted to readily slide within the hole.

It will be observed that the ring gear 72 is driven by the associated drive gear 60 of the motor 22 in the direction of the arrow in FIG. 6. By such motion, the pin 110 is urged or cammed out of contact with the shoulder 108. Since there is then no positive contact between the face of the shoulder 108 and the pin 110, the gear 72 is in effect free wheeling and will not transmit power or rotary motion through the gear train to the cam wheel 64.

Accordingly, it will be appreciated that by driving the ring gears 70, 72 in the directions illustrated in FIGS. 5 and 6, only the carn wheel 62 and the carn member 62' are caused to move

While mention has not earlier been made, it will be understood that once the motor 22 and all the associated gears of the gear train, as clearly illustrated in FIG. 3, are in operative position within the base of the enclosure 58, the upper portion of the enclosure 58 is placed over the base and threaded fasteners are typically employed to maintain upper portion in place and simultaneously hold the gear shafts and pivot pins in place.

As the cam wheel 62 is caused to rotate, the cam pin 62' urges the axle arm 34 to pivot about the pivot pin 40, as clearly illustrated in FIG. 1, causing the front of the body assembly 12 to be moved upwardly.

When the drive motor 22 is caused to reverse the rotation of the drive gear 60 by proper manipulation of the rocker switch 20, the ring gears 70, 72 are driven to rotate in an opposite direction from that illustrated in FIGS. 5 and 6. Such opposite rotation will, in effect, cause the ring gear 70 to "free wheel" in respect of the split shaft 74; and the ring gear 72 will simultaneously cause rotation of the cam wheel 64. The rotation of the cam wheel 64 and the associated cam 64" urges the axle arm 46 to pivot about the pivot pin 52, causing the rear of the body assembly 12 to be urged upwardly.

In each instance, it will be understood that as soon as the cam members 62', 64' are driven to their respective apogees, the earn members 62', 64' commence to travel downwardly allowing the weight of the front or rear of the model car 10 to return the car to a position of rest at the ground level.

In accordance with the provisions of the patent statutes, the present invention has been described in what is considered to represent its preferred embodiment. However, it should be understood that the invention can be practiced otherwise than as specifically illustrated and described without departing from its spirit or scope.

What is claimed is:

- A model car assembly including:
- a chassis;
- a first set of ground engaging wheels;
- a second set of ground engaging wheels;

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- a first set of axle arms having outer and inner ends, said axle arms rotatably receiving said first set of ground engaging wheels at the outer ends of said first set of axle arms;
- a first pivotal mounting means intermediate the outer and 5 inner ends of said first set of axle arms for pivotally mounting said first set of axle arms to said chassis;
- a second set of axle arms having outer and inner ends, said axle arms rotatably receiving said second set of ground engaging wheels at the outer ends of said second set of axle arms;
- a second pivotal mounting means intermediate the outer and inner ends of said second set of axle arms for pivotally mounting said second set of axle arms to said chassis:
- a reversible drive motor;
- a first cam member engaging said first set of axle arms between inner end thereof and said first pivotal mounting means;
- a second cam member engaging said second set of axle arms between the inner end thereof and said second pivotal mounting means; and
- a gear train coupled to said drive motor to drive said first cam member when caused to operate in a first direction and to drive said second cam member when caused to operate in a direction opposite to the first direction.
- A model car assembly including:
- a chassis:
 - a first set of arms having outer and inner ends, said arms receiving ground engaging means at the outer ends thereof:
 - a first pivotal mounting intermediate the outer and inner ends of said first set of arms for pivotally mounting 35 said first set of arms to said chassis;
 - a second set of arms having outer and inner ends, said arms receiving ground engaging means at the outer ends thereof;

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- a second pivotal mounting intermediate the outer and inner ends of said second set of arms for pivotally mounting said second set of arms to said chassis;
- a reversible drive motor;
- a first cam member engaging said first set of arms between inner end thereof and said first pivotal mounting:
- a second cam member engaging said second set of arms between the inner end thereof and said second pivotal mounting; and
- a gear train coupled to said drive motor to drive said first cam member when caused to operate in a first direction and to drive said second cam member when caused to operate in a direction opposite to the first direction.
- 3. A model car assembly including:
- a chassis having a first end and a second end;
- a first arm pivotally mounted to said chassis;
- a second arm pivotally mounted to said chassis;
- a reversible drive motor having switch means for selectively driving said motor in a first direction or a second direction.
- a first cam member coupled to said chassis and engaging said first arm;
- a second carn member coupled to said chassis and engaging said second arm; and
- a gear train coupling said drive motor to said first cam member and said second cam member whereby energization of said motor in a first direction effectively drives said first cam member and energization of said motor in a second direction effectively drives said second cam member to selectively cause upward movement of the first end and the second end of said chassis.

* * * * *

JS 44 (REV. 12/96)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

COUNTY IN WHICH ACTION AROSE

WAYNE

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace our supplement the filting and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the number of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE POWERS OF THE EDDM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS								
CRAFT HOUSE CORPORATION				LANARD TOYS, INC. and LANARD TOYS LTD.								
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VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS I	23 0000000	TION	DEM	AND \$ Dama Injund		Foes/	CHECK YES	1 '	YES	In 6911	
VIII. RELATED CASE	(S) (See instructions):	UDGE						CKET NUMBER.				
DATE		SIGNATURE OF	F ATTO	RNEY O	FRECORD				7			
1/17/2006		Mark A. Canto	or (P3	266/1)	2	_	4	a (See				
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		-	-(-								
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RECEIPT#	AMOUNT	APPLYING IFP		_	JUÖGE			JUDG	=			

PURSUANT TO LOCAL RULE 83.11

1.	Is this a case that has been previously dismissed?	Yes
If yes, give	the following information:	∖ ⊠ No
Co u rt:	·	
Case No.:		
2.	Other than stated above, are there any pending or previously discontinued or dismissed companion cases in this or any other court, including state court? (Companion cases are matters in which that appears substantially similar evidence will be offered or the same or related parties are present and the cases arise out of the same transaction or occurrence.)	Yes h X No
If yes, give	e the following information:	
Court:		
Case No.:		
		•
Notes :		
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		: